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INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Richmond, Virginia

To: D. Leyden

Date: August 19, 1992

From: R. Ferguson



Subject: *Operational Plans for 1993 R&D Commitments*

PROG. CATEGORY: Cost/Productivity

ITEM: Packaging with Solvents Above Specification

OBJECTIVE: Develop a process to reclaim packaging with out of specification solvent levels.

STATUS: Most printed materials used by Manufacturing are conventional gravure and these could be candidates to reclaim when out of specification.

For conventional gravure, all printers now have in place analytical methods and heating chambers to reduce solvent levels. There is agreement that the incidence of solvent related problems is decreasing. There is complete consensus the the highest priority is the resolution of this issue before printed packaging is received by PM. No "salvage" considerations should coe at the expense of any resources needed to to complete fundamental improvements in our packaging materials.

The understanding of various offset printing chemistries and totally water borne gravure printing are not advanced enough at this time to consider implementation of this objective with these printed materials.

STRATEGY: Review current business situation related to out of specification printing solvents on packaging materials.

TACTIC: Define the current economic impact and use in assessments of cost/benefit for any avoidance or remediation approaches.

RESP. PERSON: J. Lephardt

STRATEGY: Define and evaluate avoidance and remediation options.

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TACTIC: Contact experts in QA, Purchasing, Manufacturing and the printing companies to develop options and cost/benefit analyses.

RESP. PERSON: J. Lephardt

STRATEGY: Evaluate the need for an in-coming materials solvent determination procedure and, if warranted, develop and demonstrate such a procedure.

TACTIC: Contact experts in QA, Purchasing and Manufacturing to determine the utility and potential impact of a more rapid solvent procedure.

RESP. PERSON: J. Lephardt

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